

REMARKS

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 are pending.

Claims 1-4 and 6-12 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Muranaga (US Patent No. 5,671,428).

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muranaga in view of Light (US Patent No. 5,973,693).

In the Advisory Action mailed September 5, 2003, the Examiner checks box 5.c, and includes a Continuation Sheet, indicating that the request for reconsideration has been considered but does not place the application in condition for allowance because Muranaga and Light still meet the claimed invention. The Continuation Sheet also indicates that the August 7, 2003 After Final Amendment will be entered upon filing of the Appeal Brief.


Accordingly, entry and express consideration/reconsideration of the August 7, 2003 After Final Response, including an Examiner interview, is requested, because the Examiner's rationale in the Advisory Action Continuation Sheet is not clear as to why Muranaga and Light still meet the claimed invention.

CONCLUSION

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
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